IN THE SPECIFICATION:

On page 11, lines 18-22, please replace the entire paragraph with the following:

FIG. [[7]] 10 shows the un-normalized characteristics of the luminance-distribution-characteristics parameters (VAR and Amax) that were measured in an actual driving test. Images were taken into the weak sunlight from about 300 sec. to about 340 sec. after the start of measurement.

On page 12, lines 21-22, please replace the entire paragraph with the following:

FIGS. [[9A]] 12A and [[9B]] 12B show the distribution characteristics of the addition of luminance Ai in regular conditions.

On page 12, lines 23-26, please replace the entire paragraph with the following:

In detail, FIG. [[9A]] 12A shows an example of the distribution characteristics for a driving condition such that a vehicle is entering a freeway, so that the sky is displayed all over the upper section of the monitor screen.

On page 12, lines 27-31, please replace the entire paragraph with the following:

FIG. [[9B]] 12B shows another example of the distribution characteristics for a driving condition such that the vehicle is traveling on a road uncovered with snow, which is displayed in the mid section of the monitoring screen, while the ground besides the road has been covered with snow.

On page 12, lines 32-35, please replace the entire paragraph with the following:

On the other hand, FIGS. [[10A]] 13A and [[10B]] 13B show the distribution characteristics of the addition of luminance Ai while the cameras 1 and 2 is facing a weak sunlight during the sunlight-facing driving.

On page 15, lines 32-35, please replace the entire paragraph with the following:

The count-up amount α is decided according to a count-up amount setting routine shown in FIG. [[6]] 16. The amount a is decided in accordance with a distance variable variance of distance and a difference in luminance in left and right cameras (step S20).

On page 16, lines 4-9, please replace the entire paragraph with the following:

In view of such a tendency, the present invention obtains the distance variable variance of distance in a predetermined area in a monitored image, for example, an area extending in the vertical direction in the image. The count-up amount α is set at a large one when the variable variance is large. It is also set at a large amount in the sunlight-facing driving due to a larger luminance difference between the left and right cameras compared to the normal driving.

On page 16, lines 14-17, please replace the entire paragraph with the following:

The routine then proceeds to step [[S3]] S7 in FIG. 6 to determine whether the count flag Fcnt has been set at "1", or the counter K has been counting up or down in step S7. If it is determined as K=0, the routines will not proceed anymore and ends.

3

On page 19, lines 30-32, please replace the entire paragraph with the following:

The count-up amount α is adjusted based on the luminance difference between the left and right cameras and <u>variance of</u> distance data ~~variable~~.